

2002 Annual Report Executive Summary

City of Deming Enterprise Community

The City of Deming Enterprise Community consists of two communities within six census tracts over 2,965 square miles in Luna County, New Mexico. Luna County is situated on the U.S.-Mexican border and is home to the only 24-hour port of entry in New Mexico. The City of Deming and the Village of Columbus are the two communities that make up Luna County. The City of Deming is located 33 miles north of the border and sits a little over 200 miles east of Tucson, AZ and 100 miles west of El Paso, TX along Interstate 10. The Village of Columbus is located just 3 miles north of the border on Highway 11. According to the 2000 Census, the population of the county currently sits at about 25,000. The population of Luna County has grown over 38% since 1990. A few statistics: over 57% of the population is of Hispanic origin; over 40% of the population 25 years of age or older does not possess a high school diploma; about 33% of the population lives below poverty with per capita income being \$11,218. Community residents who are personally familiar with these statistics were, and continue to be involved in setting the goals and the benchmarks within the City of Deming EC Strategic Plan. These goals and benchmarks can be broken up into five different categories – education & training, economic development/opportunity, community development, health & recreation, and housing. Programs and services increased in all of the categories. Jobs were created, services expanded, resources made available, programs implemented, funds received and distributed, and day by day, step by step, task by task, people working to produce a better quality of life for our residents did just that. The City of Deming Enterprise Community completed its fourth year in the EZ/EC program in 2002 and is a better place to live because of it.